

Dear Dr. Goldberg,

7/11 /92

The interests expressed in your letter reflect that the books postulating assassination conspiracies have made an impression on you. They are all flawed in many ways and if you start checking up on that nonsense you'll soon go bananas and have no time for anything else.

In order to be able to respond more fully, I checked that page of High Reason 2. It refers to some of the nuttiest self-promoters who have other serious character faults and who are as close to totally undependable as can easily be achieved. Skolnick and his Bottos. I have a vague recollection of something irrational that Bottos did for which he was jailed. But the Federal Correctional Institution at Springfield, which I think is its name, differs from others in being largely medical. It is no more a political prison than any other.

Livingstone's address is 3025 Abell Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21218. I am not certain but I think the address of Jack Anderson's Washington Merry-Go-Round column is 1401 16 NW.

I do not believe that Oswald fired at Walker. I have no reason to believe that it was in any way related to the JFK assassination,

Most of those generally regarded as political prisoners were not sent to Springfield and were scattered around in other federal pens. And not a few, like Bottos, seem not to be entirely rational, a good reason for sending those prisoners to the medical facility.

I am sorry for people like you who want to learn about the assassination when the only books generally available have little to do with the established fact of the crime, about which almost none of those authors have made any serious effort to learn. You'll wind up thoroughly confused and misinformed from that literature but the book stores carry nothing else because nothing else is by an established publisher. One exception, besides mine, which advance no theories at all, is Sylvia Meagher's excellent "Accessories after the Fact," just reprinted by Vintage. A dated by a very fine work. (My first book was the first, the publishers were afraid, I self-published, and that is a curse. It also means I have no real distribution so for the most part people have to get my books from me.)

I am 79, I have more serious medical problems than years ago I thought anyone could survive, I still try to do constructive work with what time I have, and I'd appreciate it if you ask me no more questions that come from any of the books that advance conspiracy theories as fact or as solutions. Or about the theories themselves. Making any meaningful response takes too much of the time I'd rather use for what might be constructive purposes and it is all meaningless in any event. Those books just are not real.

Sincerely,


Harold Weisberg